

Government structure Science of Aphasia

1. Scientific committee

1.1 Definition and responsibilities. The Scientific committee of SoA is the leading board of the Science of Aphasia conferences. Its members define the location, the topics of the yearly programme, and select the invited speakers. The Scientific committee installs yearly a programme committee (see definitions below).

1.2 Composition.

1.2.1 The scientific committee consists of a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 10 members considering diversity with respect to a.o. gender, seniority and country of work

1.2.2 The following roles are represented in the scientific committee: Chair, Vice-chair, and Program committee chair

1.3 Vacancies. Membership ends with the (1) retirement, (2) upon request of the member, or (3) by a majority vote of the board members which may be triggered by any board member if the board member in question has not contributed to the fulfillment of the board's roles in the past 2 years.

1.4 Election

1.4.1 The Scientific committee nominates a chair and a vice-chair amongst its current members. Members are invited to volunteer at the end of terms for these roles. If several members are interested in taking these roles, elections are held in the annual board meeting.

1.4.2 When there are vacancies, a call will be announced via the Science of Aphasia mailing list for potential expressions of interest.

1.4.3 Colleagues that are interested in becoming a member of the Scientific committee need to send a motivation letter and a CV, following the procedures specified in the call for applications. The Scientific committee installs an ad hoc committee consisting of four of their members, to decide on the membership.

1.5 Terms

1.5.1 Chair, vice-chair: the roles are performed for a period of 3 years, with an option to prolong this for a consecutive period of 3 more years.

1.5.2 Regular members: the roles are performed for a period of 3 years, with an option to prolong this for consecutive periods of 3 years.

2. Programme committee

2.1 Definition and responsibilities. The programme committee is responsible for abstract selection and for the organisation of the programme (except for invited/keynote speakers, who are invited by the Scientific committee).

2.2 Composition. The committee consists of 6 members: three members from the Scientific committee and three external members.

2.3 Election

2.3.1 The scientific committee nominates a chair for the programme committee amongst its current members. Members are invited to volunteer at the end of terms for these roles. If several members are interested in taking these roles, elections are held in the annual board meeting.

2.3.2 When there are vacancies, a call will be announced via the Science of Aphasia mailing list for potential expressions of interest.

- 2.3.3** Colleagues that are interested in becoming a member of the Programme committee need to send a motivation letter and a CV, following the procedures specified in the call for applications. The Scientific committee installs an ad hoc committee consisting of four of their members, to decide on the membership.

2.4 Term

- 2.4.1** For members who are also in the scientific committee, the term is defined in 1.5.1.
- 2.4.2** External members may function for a period of 3 years, with one option to prolong this for a maximum of 3 more years.
- 2.4.3** Exceptions (i.e., additional extensions) to terms are made when there are none or insufficient numbers of interested candidates to fulfill these roles, after a call is published.

3. Poster prize and advisory position Scientific committee

The Scientific committee organizes a yearly poster prize competition among MA or Phd-students that participate with a poster (including the pitch) at the yearly conference. Only students that present the poster themselves are eligible for the prize. The members of the programme committee will decide on the winner, based on a set of predescribed criteria. The winner of the poster prize will get free attendance to the next Science of Aphasia conference and will be invited to join the Scientific committee meeting at that conference and advise the committee on the coming conference.